

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

October 14, 2005

Christopher Maska, Treasurer Republican Party of Texas 900 Congress Avenue, Suite 300 Austin, TX 78701

Response Due Date: November 14, 2005

Identification Number: C00143743

Reference:

September Monthly Report (8/1/05 - 8/31/05)

Dear Mr. Maska:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above. An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your August Monthly Report (7/1/05 - 7/31/05). Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The totals listed on Lines 7, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b), 21(c), 22, 30(b), 30(c), 31 and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the Administrative category are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive, exempt activity costs and expenses for public communications made by PACs referencing only political parties are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements

during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

-The outstanding balance of a debt owed to a creditor at the close of one report should be exactly the same as the beginning outstanding balance of the next report. The Amended May Monthly Report, received 9/2/05, shows an ending balance to Lilly & Company, LLC of \$40,728.19, while this report shows a beginning balance of \$39,916.31. Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

-Your report discloses an outstanding balance beginning this period for a debt owed to Lockart, Atchley & Associates, LLP. However, an outstanding balance at the close of the period was not disclosed on your August Monthly Report. Please amend your report(s) to clarify this discrepancy.

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B of your report to clarify the following description: "Generic Donor Warehousing." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement have to be itemized as memo entries regardless of the amount. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "Generic Postage Office Supplies" and "Reimb Anti Virus License Renewal." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, payment to the original vendors must be itemized as memo entries <u>regardless of amount</u>. Each memo entry must include the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date,

amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1301.

Bradley Decker

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Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division

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